

B2 2. (Amended) The aluminium workpiece of claim 1, wherein the adhesion promoter is one containing one or more of Cr, Mn, Mo, Si, Ti and Zr.

3. (Amended) The aluminium workpiece of claim 1, wherein the organic polymer is selected from at least one of polyacrylic acid and poly(hydroxyphenyl)styrene.

B3 4. (Twice Amended) The aluminium workpiece of claim 1, wherein the oxide film is a barrier layer.

Cancel claims 5, 6 and 8.

Amend claims 9, 10 and 11 as follows:

B4 9. (Amended) The aluminium workpiece of claim 1, which is an aluminium sheet of which at least one surface has the oxide film, the adhesion promoter^{coating} and a paint layer or an adhesive overlying the adhesion promoter.

10. (Twice Amended) The aluminium workpiece of claim 1, wherein the oxide film is 10-50 nm thick.

B5 11. (Twice Amended) The aluminium workpiece of claim 1, wherein the adhesion promoter coating is present at a weight of 2-100 mg/m².

Cancel claim 12.

Amend claims 13, 15 and 16 as follows:

B6 13. (Twice Amended) The aluminium workpiece of claim 1, which is a primed sheet for automotive use.

B7 15. (Twice Amended) A method of treating an aluminium workpiece, which method comprises precleaning a surface of the workpiece, anodising the workpiece so as to form an anodic oxide film 10 to 200 nm thick on the surface and applying to the anodic oxide film a coating which consists essentially of at least one adhesion promoter containing one or more of Cr, Mn, Mo, Si, Ti, Zr and F, optionally containing an organic polymer, wherein the Cr, Mn, Mo, Si, Ti, Zr and F are present in inorganic form, and wherein the adhesion promoter is applied to the anodic oxide film in the form of a no-rinse coating, which is a composition consisting essentially of the adhesion promoter in a volatile vehicle which evaporates leaving a film of the adhesion promoter, or a conversion coating, which reacts chemically with the oxide film to form a film of the adhesion promoter.

B8 16. (Amended) The method of claim 15, wherein the anodic oxide film is a barrier film.

Cancel claim 17. ✓

Amend claim 18 as follows:

B9 18. (Twice Amended) The method of claim 15, wherein the aluminium workpiece is aluminium sheet.

Cancel claim 20. ✓

Amend claim 21 as follows:

B10 21. (Amended) The method of claim 19, wherein a paint layer or adhesive is applied over the adhesion promoter coating.